ABSTRACT

A machine-readable identification register is provided on each cell of a cellular computer system. The identification register is read during system startup to identify a processor type, which may include an instruction set architecture (ISA),

5   associated with the cell. The processor type information is used to ensure that a compatible boot image is provided to processors of the cell. In another embodiment, the system management subsystem has a version selection flag. When the version selection flag is in a first state, the compatible boot image provided to processors of the cell is a current boot image; with the selection flag in a second state the

10   compatible boot image provided to processors of the cell is an older edition of the boot image.

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